

## INFIELD MIXES A-Z 2013 STMA CONFERENCE

### OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

GRANT MCKNIGHT, LUKE YODER, JOHN TURNOUR, ERIC BLANTON AND BILL DEACON

#### Opening Statements-Bill Deacon

Introduce our panel and why each member has been selected, **we all have similar views on how to manage an infield, what makes up an infield and how to maintain an infield.** Introduce the idea for this discussion, how it came about and what we wanted to accomplish

#### **Grant McKnight-Natural Sand Company/Dura-Edge Products**

Grant will focus on the infield mix manufacturing process, infield mix testing, marbles in a jar, in general how an infield mix works and what it takes to amend and existing infield mix

#### **Luke Yoder-San Diego Padres**

Luke has extensive field construction experience having opened two MLB ballparks, Pittsburgh and San Diego, Luke has also completed a lot of Little League and High School field renovations, his focus during this talk will be construction and renovation

#### **John Turnour-Washington Nationals**

John has spent many years working in the transition zone first as an Assistant with the Baltimore Orioles and now as the Head Groundskeeper of the Washington Nationals, John will focus on maintaining fields on the East Coast in transition zone climates, John has also amended his infield skin in Washington to have it perform to his standards and can help with that process as well

#### **Eric Blanton-Reno Aces**

Eric has extensive experience at both the Major League and Minor League level, he has won Field of the Year awards in both AA and AAA and his focus for these discussions will be maintenance of Infield Skins at the minor league level and what are some of his tricks of the trade to get a Major League product with a smaller budget and staff

#### **Bill Deacon-NY Mets**

I will fill in the gaps and direct the discussion questions towards the panel, I will also, if need be, direct the discussion with a few pre-arranged topics just in case there are any awkward silences.

Opening 30-40 Minutes will be Grant McKnight setting the stage for the discussion

(Grant's Opening Discussion-Marbles in a Jar, how to build, who you are, where you want to get to, and renovation experiences)

After Grant we will move the discussion to more of a round table style discussion, I will direct the questions to a person

In the event that we do have awkward silences here are some of the topics I will set up pictures of to stimulate discussion:

Construction and Renovation Pictures: adding amendment, blending together material, laser grading

Maintenance Tools, what you need, how you build etc.

New Innovations: Moisture Meter, I have some charts and readings data, what we are hoping to accomplish with this.

Problem solving pictures on existing fields